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Anthony Visser

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EXAMINER

SAFAVI, MICHAEL

ART UNIT

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3637

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Box 3-NOTE: Contd.** Proposed amendments to each of claims 1 and 10 as well as proposed addition of new claim 19 would require further consideration and possibly further search.

**Box 11: Contd.** Applicant's arguments filed July 08, 2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As for Applicant's arguments with regard to the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, lines 1-4 on page 5 of the specification do not set forth, either expressly or explicitly, "the supports are fixed relative to the flat plate". The recitation of "[i]t is indeed possible herein that the supports are fixed sufficiently firmly with a sufficiently great length of support of the rods or brackets by the plastic of the plastic part of the supports" does not, either expressly or explicitly, set forth "the supports are fixed relative to the flat plate". From the passage alluded to by Applicant it is not even clear as to what the supports are fixed or how the supports are fixed. Examiner can only disagree with Applicant's assessment set forth within the first full paragraph on page 9 of the after final response.

As for Applicant's arguments against the rejection of claims 1-6 and 8-18, (specifically claims 1 and 8), under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, reference is made to the examiners remarks on page 4 of the final Office action dated April 21, 2010.

As for Applicant's arguments against the rejection of claim 1, over Barefoot, as set forth within the final Office action dated April 21, 2010 Barefoot discloses "a recess, (formed by the outer surface of each or both or any of 24 against which support 13

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rests), is arranged in the carrier for receiving a support 13 of an underlying carrier” as well as “adjacently to the recesses, the carrier is provided with a support surface, (surface of 11 or surface of 10), for supporting underlying carriers; and the support surfaces, (any surface or portions of the surface lying next to the recesses formed by outer surface of each or both or any of 24 against which support 13 rests)”.

As for Applicant’s arguments against the rejection of claim 1, over Huls (DE ‘736), as set forth within the final Office action dated April 21, 2010 Huls discloses “a recess 9 is arranged in the carrier for receiving a support 5, 6 of an underlying carrier” as well as “adjacently to the recesses, the carrier is provided with a support surface, (top of 1 or underside of 1 (4?)), for supporting underlying carriers; and the support surfaces, (any surface or portions of the surface lying next to the recesses 9)”.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL SAFAVI whose telephone number is (571)272-7046. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Darnell Jayne can be reached on (571) 272-7723. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

/Michael Safavi/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3637

M. Safavi  
July 20, 2010